Penn State University Round Robin Update – June 2005

University Reorganization

The University unveiled a reorganization plan in March that will go into effect July 1, 2005. The reorganization involves a change in reporting lines and budgetary oversight for campus locations. Currently Penn State has 23 campuses with the largest campus being located at University Park. The primary impact for the Libraries will be that all operating and collection budgets will move under the Dean of Libraries on July 1. Formerly, support staff and some collection budgets were managed by campuses.   The reorganization will include changing the reporting line for the Sheehy-Lee Law Library at the Dickinson School of Law Library and the George T. Harrell Library at Hershey Medical Center from the respective deans of each school to the Dean of Libraries. Recommendations also call for centralization of library technical service operations. While the reporting lines and budgets will change on July 2, 2005, discussions will continue next year on possible centralization of technical services.

Dickinson Law School

Dickinson Law located in Carlisle, PA, and not part of Dickinson College, will be opening a second law school at the University Park campus in August 2006. Curriculum and building plans are currently being developed. There will be separate law libraries at Carlisle and University Park.

Dean's Office Reorganization

As mentioned in January's round-robin update, the reorganization of the Dean's office has now moved forward and most changes will officially take effect on July 1, 2005. The newly defined position of Assistant Dean for Scholarly Communications & Collection Strategies has made the transition from Assistant Dean for Collections. The new Office of Digital Scholarly Publishing has been established and initiatives are now moving forward. The collections budget piece of the new position will be assigned to the Assistant Dean for Technical & Collections Services. Collection content will be managed by the Collection Development Steering Group.

Search for Assistant Dean for Technical and Collections Services

Interviews were completed in May and a final decision is currently pending. As previously noted, the position was redefined to include collection services.

Search for Serials Cataloging Librarian

Interviews were completed in May and a final decision is currently pending.

Electronic resource management

Penn State had implemented SFX version 1 in fall 2005 and plans to upgrade to version 3 this summer. Following implementation of version 3, locally configured targets may be added to the knowledge base. In addition, the Libraries A-Z list that is now generated from the local ERM (ERLIC) will be generated from SFX version 3. Will implement Ex Libris's MARCit record service by August 1st.

ERLIC (Electronic Resource Licensing Center) continues to be used for licensing, payment, authentication, and usage data. However, currently monitoring vendor products to determine if more cost-effective solutions available. Would like to more closely link our electronic resource management data with Unicorn library management system acquisition and payment data.

Local integrated library management system.

The Libraries are currently running on SIRSI version 2003.1.5 but will soon begin testing SIRSI's new java client which should improve functionality for cataloging. The acquisition client has substantially changed and staff will need to develop new procedures. The data loads of the history logs for the SIRSI Directors Workstation product have been completed and the product will be released to designated staff soon. Directors Workstation is a relatively new SIRSI offering that is used to generate a number of statistical reports and replace in part need for a local data warehouse.

Acquisitions

Subject selector groups now have much control over their fund allocations for fiscal year 2005/2006. This includes establishing serial cancellation targets. Prior to this year, the targets were established across the board for all subject areas. This change is related to the reorganization of collection development, moving more of the fiscal responsibility down to the subject selector level.

Serials and Acquisitions Services staff formerly assigned solely to manage print serials have been moving into electronic resource management. In particular, staff have helped reconcile publisher and vendor title lists for the large e-journal packages. Staff have now also helped with order record creation and several refunding projects as we refine our budgeting process to keep better track of e-resources.